

WASHINGTON.

Favorable Outlook for the Nicaragua Canal.

FACTS AND FIGURES FOR GENERAL GRANT.

The President's Message and Action of Congress on the Subject.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 1879.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL—IMPORTANT EVIDENCE AND STATISTICS REGARDING THE ENTERPRISE TO BE SUBMITTED TO GENERAL GRANT.

Mr. Thomas de Franco had a long interview with Admiral Ammen to-day in regard to the Nicaragua Canal and the documentary evidence submitted more than confirms previous reports of the willingness of French capitalists to subscribe largely for the stock of the company. It is understood that the statistics of trade show that the probable revenue the first year the canal is in operation would be nearly \$10,000,000. The toll would be fixed at not less than \$2 per ton, and as the Nicaragua route would be available for sailing as well as steam vessels, it is believed that the construction of the canal would change the course of all the trade of Australia, New Zealand and Japan with Europe. It is not generally known that the expenses of the Suez Canal were not more than one-half the receipts, and the business of this route is confined exclusively to steam vessels. The stock, though only paying three per cent, is in demand, more probably on account of the permanency of the investment. The cost of the Suez Canal was nearly \$100,000,000, the same amount that it is calculated the Nicaragua Canal will cost, though the general estimates do not put it above \$85,000,000. With all the inconveniences of the locks, 100 vessels could easily be passed through every day, but the estimates show that if only one passed through every hour, or in fact if vessels of ordinary tonnage only went through at the rate of eight a day, the financial success of the canal would be far greater than the Suez route, and European capitalists would be glad to invest in it. It will thus be seen that but 3,000 vessels have to pass through the canal in the course of a year to enable the company to pay not less than six per cent dividends. The statistics of our commerce with China and Japan, together with the advantage which vessels destined for England and France would have in going and coming via Nicaragua, have convinced the most eminent French engineers, it is said, that the construction of the canal by this route is imperatively demanded in the interests of commerce, amity and navigation. The risks would be diminished and the carrying trade increased so that the saving in premiums and fuel on steam vessels would more than pay the tolls exacted by the use of the canal route.

The foregoing are some of the facts which will be submitted to General Grant on his arrival in Philadelphia next month to assure him of the solidity of the enterprise as a business matter. The statistics are taken from the latest reports received at the Bureau of Statistics and embrace the tonnage of vessels exclusively American, engaged in East India trade, foreign vessels engaged in the same trade with ports of the United States, British vessels trading with South America, Australia, and New Zealand and European ports; in a word, the tonnage of vessels whose interest it would be to now use the Nicaragua Canal. These show that it would be a paying investment the very first year, with every probability of the revenues increasing from year to year. For the rest, it only remains for the engineers to proceed at once with the work, and personal friends of General Grant feel confident that when the business aspect of the scheme is presented to him with these statistical facts that he will promptly accept the responsibility of securing the concession and place himself at the head of the company.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON THE INTER-OCEANIC CANAL QUESTION—A REVOLUTION TO BE INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS—POSITION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

It is understood that the President will, in his forthcoming message, allude to the project for building an inter-oceanic canal and the favor in which the Nicaragua route is held by eminent engineers. He will, it is said, set forth that such an enterprise must be under the control of an American company, and as such it would be protected by our government. Not only will the message take this ground, but during the first week of the session, if possible on the first day of the meeting of Congress, there will be introduced in both houses the following joint resolution, with the intention of securing its passage under suspension of the rules, or at least final action before the holiday recess:

Whereas the project for the construction of an inter-oceanic canal via Nicaragua is recognized as a necessity for the prosperity of the commerce of the world and the development of the maritime and commercial interests of the United States; and whereas such an enterprise must of necessity be considered as of international utility under the protection of the government of the United States; therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives, That the government of the United States pledges to accord full and entire protection to the company to which shall be granted the concession by the government of Nicaragua for the construction of said inter-oceanic canal, and will secure to said company the peaceful enjoyment of the rights conceded by such grant.

The passage of this resolution, it is said, would be more agreeable to General Grant than any honor that can be bestowed by Congress. As he is to meet a number of prominent business men in Philadelphia during his visit there next month it is contended that the passage of this resolution would be the first step in the right direction. There are those who say that the friends of Presidential aspirants in both houses will give the resolution their earnest support, believing it will help to strengthen the views of General Grant's friends who may be called upon to advise with him when the business details are brought forward at Philadelphia. In this connection it is stated that the passage of the resolution will be followed by an authoritative announcement from a leading banking house in Europe of its willingness to assume subscriptions for two-thirds of the entire amount necessary for the construction of the canal.

It is now regarded as not improbable that prominent Southern members will exert their influence to keep out the bill proposing to restore General Grant to his former position in the army, the chief states particularly being directly interested in promoting the success of the canal, and the representatives in securing the protection of the canal whenever constructed. If the Nicaragua government should make the concession exclusively to an American company it releases the government of Great Britain from the necessity of using its friendly offices in securing the concession, while the joint resolution proposed to be introduced maintains the spirit of the treaty and substantially quotes article 6 in the preamble.

GENERAL BUTLER TO RUN FOR CONGRESS.

Congressman Leopold More, of Boston, who represents the Fourth Massachusetts district, said to-day that he understood General Butler's plan to run for Congress next year in his district. Whether General Butler intended to abandon the gubernatorial race he did not know, but it was understood he would again enter the field as an

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 1879.

THE CENSUS—ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

General Francis A. Walker, Superintendent of the Census, has completed his annual report to the Secretary of the Interior. It succinctly details many important arrangements which have already been made for carrying into effect the provisions of the act of March 3, 1879, for taking the census of the United States. The census day is June 1, 1880; the census year comprises the twelve months ending on that day. For the census day the law requires the statistics of the then living inhabitants, embracing the facts of age, sex, color, nationality, occupation, literacy, &c. For the census year the law requires the statistics of agriculture, manufactures, mining and the fisheries, of taxation and public education, of morality and the causes of death during the entire period.

The census year is now current, and the Superintendent shows the classes of statistics which are now being collected. A very extensive effort is being made, through the co-operation of practicing physicians, to secure complete mortality statistics.

General Walker reports that the census law enacted at the last regular session of Congress was found to be thoroughly satisfactory in its practical working thus far, and recommends only two minor changes. One is to communications addressed to the census office, and that the inquiry regarding the holders of the public debt be omitted from the population schedule as useless and aggravating.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGISTER OF THE TREASURY.

The Register of the Treasury, in his annual report, gives a detailed account of the work performed in the several divisions of the bureau during the year ended June 30, 1879. The total number of United States coupon and registered bonds issued during the year was 711,363. The daily average issue has been nearly 2,300 bonds, amounting to \$3,800,000—almost treble the average of the preceding year.

The total tonnage of the vessels in the country exhibits a decrease of 43,164 tons. The steam tonnage has increased 8,433 tons, the canal boat tonnage 15,046 tons and the barge tonnage 31,802 tons, while the sailing tonnage has decreased, 96,506 tons. The proportion of the sailing tonnage registered is fifty-five per cent and the steam tonnage thirteen per cent. The tonnage of vessels built during the past year was 42,474 tons less than that of the preceding year.

The balance of the report is devoted to statistics showing the operations of the several divisions of the department.

NO MORMONS OR MORMONISM IN FRANCE.

Mr. Hill, in charge of the United States Legation at Paris, in a despatch to the Department of State, dated November 1, 1879, reports that after careful inquiry he finds no Mormonism in France. He is told by high authority that Mormonism cannot find root in France. The French people are indisposed to fanaticism or emigration. They will not even emigrate to Algeria, a French colony easy of access. For preaching or inculcating polygamy the French government has a prompt remedy. Any person so offending will be arrested and banished. As to the emigration of Mormons to Utah, it is not seen how it can be prevented if the emigrant complies with the military laws of France. The fact is that there is no redundancy of population in France, and hence, little or no emigration. The Mormons have failed to make proselytes in France.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 1879.

The following named officers having been found by the Army Retiring Board incapacitated on account of disabilities incident to the service, they are, by direction of the President, retired from active service, to take effect November 30, 1879: Captain William H. Andrews, Third Cavalry; First Lieutenant Granville Lewis, Fifth Infantry; James H. Sande, Sixth Cavalry; John Baunier, Twentieth Infantry; and Nelson Brown, Sixth Infantry.

The order directing Second Lieutenant Edgar W. Rice, Seventeenth Infantry, to report to the President, as intended of the mounted recruit service, to conduct recruits to the Department of Dakota, is revoked.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 1879.

Lieutenant John F. Morry is ordered to special duty connected with timber growing on public lands in the Southern States. Ensigns F. S. Carter, Cameron McKim and Lyman Ames are ordered to the Tennessee. Passed Assistant Engineer Robert W. Gail is ordered to duty on board the coast guard cutter, Albatross, to take effect November 30, 1879. Captain William H. Andrews, Third Cavalry; First Lieutenant Granville Lewis, Fifth Infantry; James H. Sande, Sixth Cavalry; John Baunier, Twentieth Infantry; and Nelson Brown, Sixth Infantry.

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ATTEMPTS TO HAVE THE INDICTMENTS AGAINST "REMBLE & CO." QUASHED, OWING TO ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES IN THE GRAND JURY ROOM.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HARRISBURG, Pa., Nov. 25, 1879.

The defense in the riot bribery cases sprang a point on the prosecution to-day after the Court had overruled their motion made yesterday to quash the indictments. The records of the Court show that David W. Brill was present at a grand jury, and Senator Hays, who was present yesterday by another grand jury, had participated in the proceedings the entire week. Mr. Samuel F. Barr swore that twenty-four jurors acted in the cases, one more than are required at common law. It was also intended to prove by the witness that the District Attorney had used undue influence with the Grand Jury to have the accused indicted, but he declined to give the desired information shielding himself behind the oath he had taken as grand juror. His cross-examination showed that he had told a number of leading lawyers that twenty-four persons acted on the several bills, when Senator Carpenter intimated that the gentleman had been more leaky to outsiders than to the Court. The argument continued all day with the Court ruling in favor of the prosecution, and the motion to quash the indictment, because of the numerical defect in the grand jury, and as one of the counsel for the prosecution and for the defense have yet to speak, the jury will probably not be disposed of until to-morrow. In the argument to-day the defense was represented by four lawyers, while the prosecution was represented by three. The prosecution was borne by Senator Carpenter, who admitted that a jury of twenty-four persons was defective, but that the record, was not subject to contradiction and that the Court could not go behind it. The finding, he also maintained, should not be set aside by the allegation that the Grand Jury is not a body of persons who had no business there, and the defendant's case was not prejudiced thereby, as the jury was unanimous in its action.

Judge Pearson said this was the only point that had puzzled him since the beginning of the trial. The defense counsel for the Grand Jury is of the State was susceptible of the construction that twenty-four persons could legally act as grand jurors.

The counsel for the defense considered their position impregnable, and confidently predicted that the Court will quash the various indictments, in which event they will be sent to the Grand Jury of the January term. And it now seems clear that the defense had the bribery cases postponed from last week to this. It tried last week the November term. The counsel for the defense was of the opinion that the Grand Jury was not properly constituted by design. The Prothonotary's clerk is positive that Bright did not answer to his name when called, but that when he swore to the jury, only twenty-three members were in the box. Supposing that Bright Bill was not among the twenty-four he marked him "absent." The foreman of the Grand Jury is of the same opinion as to the number, but there appears to be no doubt that Bright Bill was sworn and from the start took part in the proceedings of the Grand Jury. The most plausible theory is that the clerk's mistake was discovered and that the twenty-fourth juror, whose name has not been made public, was summoned to the box, but was not present at the proceedings without being sworn. For the first few days there were only twenty-three jurors, but later on a fourth juror came to be considered twenty-fourth.

EPAULETTES AND BONNETS.

EIGHTH DAY OF THE MILITARY FAIR—RARE CHANCES FOR DIAMONDS—VOYING FOR FAVORITES.

A steady stream of visitors poured into the Seventh Regiment Armory yesterday afternoon and evening to enjoy the attractions of the fair. Pretty faces and brilliant toilets characterized the attendance, and the sales were brisk and numerous. There were more "chances" sold, however, than anything else, if one might judge from the almost innumerable lotteries at the various booths, where \$1 or \$2 and good luck always insure one a prize. The unwritten law that fair daimels shall not solicit subscriptions imposes upon them a cruel restraint which they evidently feel very keenly, and one young lady assured a HERALD reporter that she had virtually lost hundreds of dollars at her booth because she was not permitted to indulge in a little "eloquent appeal." This custom rule, of course, applies only to the matter of begging visitors to buy what have not made any overtures towards a purchase. When one asks the price of the tables is forced and animated. The sales are still feverishly kept up so that the success of each company may not be known. The diamonds that have adorned the tables of the Seventh and Tenth Companies are considered by many to afford them an advantage over their competitors, as the receipts from the diamond raffles will undoubtedly be large. It is said that the Seventh Company expect to receive \$5,000 from the precious stones. The fan on which many prominent artists have painted trifles attracts admirers constantly. The fan was originally worth \$5, and now it is valued at \$500.

Children are delighted with the "Lady of the Lake," who ships them presents in a little craft from behind a mysterious grove overhanging the water, and politicians contemplate with reverence the barrel of "Old Crow Whiskey" compellingly played on a lot of cigars in a handsome mahogany case. One of the cigars in a handsome mahogany case. One of the cigars in a handsome mahogany case. One of the cigars in a handsome mahogany case.

During the evening the armory was crowded to repletion, and it was with difficulty that visitors passed from booth to booth. From the vantage point of the balcony the scene below was an animated one. The dark mass of spectators moved in solid phalanx round the part-colored booths, stopping here and there to examine the wares of the various booths, presented an interesting sight with the exotic, singing birds and busy of interesting, girls in blue and white dresses, and the occasional glimpse of the under the auspices of Company G was declared last night, the winning numbers but not the names of the winners. The prizes were as follows: first prize, a diamond bracelet and harpin, valued at \$350; second prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$150; third prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; fourth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; fifth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; sixth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; seventh prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; eighth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; ninth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; tenth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; eleventh prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; twelfth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; thirteenth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; fourteenth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; fifteenth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; sixteenth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; seventeenth prize, a pair of diamond earrings, valued at \$100; 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During the evening the armory was crowded to repletion, and it was with difficulty that visitors passed from booth to booth. From the vantage point of the balcony the scene below was an animated one. The dark mass of spectators moved in solid phalanx round the part-colored booths, stopping here and there to examine the wares of the various booths, presented an interesting sight with the exotic, singing birds and busy of interesting, girls in blue and white dresses, and the occasional glimpse of the under the auspices of Company G was declared last night, the winning numbers but not the names of the winners. 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